



PRESS RELEASE
*Office of the United States Attorney
Middle District of Florida*

PAUL I. PEREZ
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

400 North Tampa Street
Suite 3200
Tampa, Florida 33602
813/274-6000
813/274-6300 (Fax)

300 North Hogan Street
Suite 700
Jacksonville, Florida 32201
904/301-6300
904/301-6310 (Fax)

501 West Church Street
Suite 300
Orlando, Florida 32805
407/648-7500
407/648-7643 (Fax)

2110 First Street
Suite 3-137
Fort Myers, Florida 33901
239/461-2200
239/461-2219 (fax)

Contact: Steve Cole ♦ Public Affairs Specialist ♦ 813/274-6352

For Immediate Release

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**TWO SEPARATE DEFENDANTS SENTENCED
FOR POSSESSION OF FIREARMS CASES IN TAMPA BAY AREA**

Tampa, FL -United States District Court Judge Elizabeth A. Kovachevich today sentenced RICHARD RIGGALL, age 37, of Brooksville, Florida, to a term of imprisonment of 63 months. That sentence arose from his plea of guilty on December 12, 2006 to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

According to court documents, law enforcement agents attempted to follow and stop RIGGALL as he was driving a motorcycle at a high rate of speed in Pasco County on July 2, 2005. After a chase, they saw him lose control of the motorcycle and crash. Witnesses who observed the crash also saw RIGGALL toss away a firearm. When law enforcement officers arrived at the scene, they located a .45 caliber Kimber pistol, loaded with .45 caliber ammunition, near RIGGALL. At the time of these events, RIGGALL had previously been convicted of numerous felony offenses and the State of Florida had not restored to him the right to possess any firearm.

In an un-related case, United States District Court Judge Susan C. Bucklew

today sentenced SKYE COMPFORT, age 37, of Clearwater, Florida to a term of imprisonment of 37 months. That sentence arose from his plea of guilty on December 5, 2006 to his possession of an unregistered firearm.

According to court records, COMPFORT came to the attention of federal law enforcement when they saw advertisements which he had placed in local newspapers advertising the sale of firearms. After some contact with him, undercover agents interviewed COMPFORT on August 23, 2006. In that interview, COMPFORT admitted that he had been selling firearms to various customers. Agents found within his home a large number of firearms, including a drop-in automatic sear, which is a "machine gun" as defined by Title 26 of the United States Code. COMPFORT had not registered his possession of such a "machine gun" with the ATF's National Firearms Registry. At the time, COMPFORT was not lawfully authorized to possess any firearms, since he had previously been convicted of a felony offense and had not received restoration of his civil right to possess a firearm.

Both cases were investigated by the United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The cases were prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jay L. Hoffer of the Tampa Division.